REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 7-15 and 57-67 were and remain pending for examination. All other claims have been withdrawn from examination. Claims 7, 11, 15, 57, and 61 have been amended herein. Formal drawings are being submitted herewith. An Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted herewith.

The Examiner has noted the withdrawn status of claims 1-6 and 16-56 and asked that the withdrawn claims be cancelled in response to a final office action. Applicant will cancel the withdrawn claims either in response to the final office action, or at such other time as the Examiner and Applicant can agree on allowable subject matter.

The Examiner has noted that the information disclosure statement (IDS) of March 7, 2002 was not considered due to the inadvertent omission of copies of the non-patent literature cited therein. Applicant submits an Information Disclosure Statement herewith containing a duplicate form SB/08A and copies of the literature. Applicant believes no fee is due since this submission merely corrects an error in a previously submitted IDS. However, should the Examiner determine that an IDS fee must be paid, you are authorized to charge deposit account 13-4365 for the fee so that the IDS may be considered along with the amendments and remarks herein.

The Examiner has rejected all of Applicant's pending claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,737,529 to Dolin Jr. et al. ("Dolin"). It is axiomatic that for a rejection under section 102 to stand, each and every recitation as set forth in the claim must be found in the cited reference. M.P.E.P. 2131. Applicants submit that what is meant by a recitation in a claim being "found" in a cited reference is that the structure, technical concept, process, etc. recited in the claim language must be discussed, taught, or disclosed in the cited reference. There are significant differences between Applicant's invention as claimed and the disclosure of Dolin.

Applicant's invention, as disclosed and claimed herein, contemplates a system in which an underlying networking infrastructure is transparent to the definition of inputs in the system. A virtual input according to this concept is a stored value representing a Boolean result that indicates the state of the premises. Applicant calls the manner in which the status of multiple physical or other inputs can be represented by a virtual input,

"input aliasing." Dolin by contrast, represents inputs via complex algorithms, which can be observed by viewing the tables presented in Dolin. These "tables" contain substantial amounts of program code.

Applicant's claims, as amended, all recite a "logical relationship" that produces a "single Boolean outcome" for the virtual input to "represent a state of the premises." These recitations are supported in the specification in the final sentence of Paragraph [0010], the latter part of Paragraph [0030], and the fifth sentence of Paragraph [0049]. These recitations are now contained in all of Applicant's independent claims. These same recitations are contained in all of Applicant's dependent claims through their dependency. The claims now make explicit what was implicit given Applicant's use of the term "virtual input." Applicant submits that the claims are patentably distinguishable from Dolin.

Applicant notes that the Examiner has cited specific portions of Dolin as including teachings which correspond to various recitations in Applicant's claims. For example, the Examiner has pointed to Tables I, II, IX and XI as illustrating a Boolean result on which a logical relationship operates to produce a virtual input, which by definition is represented by a single Boolean outcome. But these tables in Dolin illustrate complex algorithms which take into account an underlying network protocol in order to represent inputs to the system of Dolin. There is no logical relationship that produces a single virtual input. Indeed, many of the relationships shown in the tables are algebraic and not Boolean. The Examiner has cited Column 11, lines 59-67, and Column 12, lines 1-23 of Dolin for teachings related to the same recitations. Applicant can find no such discussions or teachings in this section of Dolin, but rather only a generalized discussion of assigning names to connections and nodes within a network. Again, Applicant reminds the Examiner that for recitations to be found in a reference, the actual technical concepts must be discussed. Applicant can find no discussion, or even terminology in these sections of Dolin which is related to Applicant's invention.

Applicant notes that minor formatting changes as well as a change of one of the transitional "and" phrases to a "wherein" phrase were made in claims 7 and 57 herein. These amendments correct minor clerical errors which made it appear as though the storage bit recited in these claims was necessarily part of the "entries" recited. Applicant

submits that these changes by themselves do not affect the scope of these claims and trusts that these changes will meet with the Examiner's approval.
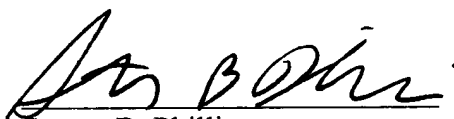
The Examiner has failed to show that every element of any claim is present in the art cited. Applicants believe they have responded to all of the concerns raised by the Examiner. Reconsideration of this application as amended is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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